



**UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION**
REGION III
2443 WARRENVILLE ROAD, SUITE 210
LISLE, IL 60532-4352

September 1, 2010

Mr. Christopher J. Schwarz
Vice President, Operations
Entergy Nuclear Operations, Inc.
Palisades Nuclear Plant
27780 Blue Star Memorial Highway
Covert, MI 49043-9530

**SUBJECT: MID-CYCLE PERFORMANCE REVIEW AND INSPECTION PLAN –
PALISADES NUCLEAR PLANT**

Dear Mr. Schwarz:

On August 5, 2010, the NRC staff completed its performance review of Palisades Nuclear Plant. Our technical staff reviewed performance indicators (PIs) for the most recent quarter and inspection results for the period from July 1, 2009, through June 30, 2010. The purpose of this letter is to inform you of our assessment of your safety performance during this period and our plans for future inspections at your facility.

This performance review and enclosed inspection plan do not include security information. A separate letter designated and marked as "Official Use Only--Security Information" will include the Security Cornerstone review and resultant inspection plan.

Plant performance for the most recent quarter at Palisades Nuclear Plant was within the Regulatory Response column of the NRC's Action Matrix based on one inspection finding in the Initiating Events Cornerstone, from the fourth quarter of 2009, which involved degradation of the neutron absorption capability of the Spent Fuel Pool plates. Therefore, we plan to conduct a supplemental inspection (95001) in response to the White finding in the Initiating Events Cornerstone. By letter dated July 6, 2010, you notified us of your readiness to conduct this supplemental inspection. We are currently working with your staff to schedule this inspection. This supplemental inspection is in addition to Reactor Oversight Process (ROP) baseline inspections at your facility.

The enclosed inspection plan details the inspections, less those related to physical protection, scheduled through December 31, 2011. We also plan on performing several special and infrequently performed inspections that include: Inspection Procedure (IP) 92709, "Licensee Strike Contingency Plans"; IP 71003, "Post-Approval Site Inspection for License Renewal," (Phase 1 and 2); IP 92702, "Follow up on Traditional Enforcement Actions, Including Violations, Deviations, Confirmatory Orders, and Alternative Dispute Resolution Confirmatory Action Letters"; and IP 60855.1, "Operation of an Independent Spent Fuel Storage Installation at

Operating Plants.” The inspection plan is provided to allow for the resolution of any scheduling conflicts and personnel availability issues well in advance of inspector arrival onsite. Routine resident inspections are not listed due to their ongoing and continuous nature. The inspections in the last 9 months of the inspection plan are tentative and may be revised at the end-of-cycle review.

In accordance with 10 CFR 2.390 of the NRC’s “Rules of Practice,” a copy of this letter and its enclosure will be made available electronically for public inspection in the NRC Public Document Room or from the Publicly Available Records (PARS) component of NRC’s document system (ADAMS). ADAMS is accessible from the NRC Web site at <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams.html> (the Public Electronic Reading Room).

If circumstances arise which cause us to change the inspection plan, we will contact you to discuss the change as soon as possible. Please contact Robert J. Orlikowski at 630-829-9753 with any questions you may have regarding this letter or the inspection plan.

Sincerely,

/RA/

Steven West, Director
Division of Reactor Projects

Docket No. 50-255; 72-007
License No. DPR-20

Enclosure: Palisades Inspection/Activity Plan

cc w/encl: Distribution via ListServ

Palisades
Inspection / Activity Plan
09/01/2010 - 12/31/2011

| Planned Dates | | Inspection Activity | Title | No. of Staff on Site |
|---------------|------------|---|--|----------------------|
| Start | End | | | |
| | | ADR - CONFIRMATORY ORDER FOR ADR | | 1 |
| 05/10/2010 | 12/10/2010 | IP 92702 | Followup On Corrective Actions For Violations And Deviations | |
| | | BI ENG - TRIENNIAL FIRE PROTECTION INSPECTION | | 5 |
| 08/16/2010 | 09/03/2010 | IP 7111105T | Fire Protection [Triennial] | |
| | | BI RP - RADIATION PROTECTION BASELINE INSPECTION | | 1 |
| 08/30/2010 | 09/03/2010 | IP 71124.01 | Radiological Hazard Assessment and Exposure Controls | |
| 08/30/2010 | 09/03/2010 | IP 71124.02 | Occupational ALARA Planning and Controls | |
| 08/30/2010 | 09/03/2010 | IP 71124.03 | In-Plant Airborne Radioactivity Control and Mitigation | |
| 08/30/2010 | 09/03/2010 | IP 71124.04 | Occupational Dose Assessment | |
| 08/30/2010 | 09/03/2010 | IP 71151-OR01 | Occupational Exposure Control Effectiveness | |
| | | BI ENG - INSERVICE INSPECTION | | 1 |
| 10/04/2010 | 10/29/2010 | IP 2515/172 | Reactor Coolant System Dissimilar Metal Butt Welds | |
| 10/04/2010 | 10/29/2010 | IP 7111108P | Inservice Inspection Activities - PWR | |
| | | RENEWAL - LICENSE RENEWAL 71003 - PHASE 1 | | 2 |
| 10/04/2010 | 10/29/2010 | IP 71003 | Post-Approval Site Inspection for License Renewal | |
| | | BI RP - RADIATION PROTECTION BASELINE INSPECTION | | 1 |
| 10/04/2010 | 10/08/2010 | IP 2515/179 | Verification of Licensee Responses to NRC Requirement for Inventories of Materials Tracked in NSTS | |
| 10/04/2010 | 10/08/2010 | IP 71124.01 | Radiological Hazard Assessment and Exposure Controls | |
| 10/04/2010 | 10/08/2010 | IP 71124.02 | Occupational ALARA Planning and Controls | |
| | | RENEWAL - LICENSE RENEWAL 71003 - PHASE 2 | | 2 |
| 01/24/2011 | 02/11/2011 | IP 71003 | Post-Approval Site Inspection for License Renewal | |
| | | BI RP - RADIATION PROTECTION BASELINE INSPECTION | | 1 |
| 02/14/2011 | 02/18/2011 | IP 71124.05 | Radiation Monitoring Instrumentation | |
| | | BI EP - EP ROUTINE INSPECTION / PI VERIFICATION | | 2 |
| 04/11/2011 | 04/15/2011 | IP 7111402 | Alert and Notification System Testing | |
| 04/11/2011 | 04/15/2011 | IP 7111403 | Emergency Preparedness Organization Staffing and Augmentation System | |
| 04/11/2011 | 04/15/2011 | IP 7111405 | Correction of Emergency Preparedness Weaknesses and Deficiencies | |
| 04/11/2011 | 04/15/2011 | IP 71151-EP01 | Drill/Exercise Performance | |
| 04/11/2011 | 04/15/2011 | IP 71151-EP02 | ERO Drill Participation | |
| 04/11/2011 | 04/15/2011 | IP 71151-EP03 | Alert & Notification System | |
| | | BI RP - RADIATION PROTECTION BASELINE INSPECTION | | 1 |
| 04/25/2011 | 04/29/2011 | IP 71124.04 | Occupational Dose Assessment | |
| 04/25/2011 | 04/29/2011 | IP 71124.06 | Radioactive Gaseous and Liquid Effluent Treatment | |
| 04/25/2011 | 04/29/2011 | IP 71151-BI01 | Reactor Coolant System Activity | |

Palisades
Inspection / Activity Plan
09/01/2010 - 12/31/2011

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| | | BI RP - RADIATION PROTECTION BASELINE INSPECTION | | 1 |
| 04/25/2011 | 04/29/2011 | IP 71151-PR01 | RETS/ODCM Radiological Effluent | |
| | | BI ENG - COMPONENT DESIGN BASES INSPECTION | | 6 |
| 06/13/2011 | 07/15/2011 | IP 2515/177 | Managing Gas Accumulation In Emergency Core Cooling, Decay Heat Removal & Containment Spray System | |
| 06/13/2011 | 07/15/2011 | IP 7111121 | Component Design Bases Inspection | |
| | | ISFSI - ISFSI INSPECTION - SCHEDULE DEPENEDENT | | 2 |
| 08/01/2011 | 08/31/2011 | IP 60855.1 | Operation of an Independent Spent Fuel Storage Installation at Operating Plants | |
| | | BI RP - RADIATION PROTECTION BASELINE INSPECTION | | 1 |
| 07/25/2011 | 07/29/2011 | IP 71124.02 | Occupational ALARA Planning and Controls | |
| 07/25/2011 | 07/29/2011 | IP 71124.03 | In-Plant Airborne Radioactivity Control and Mitigation | |
| 07/25/2011 | 07/29/2011 | IP 71151-OR01 | Occupational Exposure Control Effectiveness | |
| | | BI RP - RADIATION PROTECTION BASELINE INSPECTION | | 1 |
| 10/31/2011 | 11/04/2011 | IP 71124.01 | Radiological Hazard Assessment and Exposure Controls | |

Operating Plants.” The inspection plan is provided to allow for the resolution of any scheduling conflicts and personnel availability issues well in advance of inspector arrival onsite. Routine resident inspections are not listed due to their ongoing and continuous nature. The inspections in the last 9 months of the inspection plan are tentative and may be revised at the end-of-cycle review.

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|--------|-----------------|--|----------|--|--|--|--|
| OFFICE | RIII | | RIII | | | | |
| NAME | ROrlikowski:dtp | | SWest | | | | |
| DATE | 08/26/10 | | 08/27/10 | | | | |

OFFICIAL RECORD COPY

Letter to C. Schwarz from R. Orlikowski dated September 1, 2010.

SUBJECT: MID-CYCLE PERFORMANCE REVIEW AND INSPECTION PLAN –
PALISADES NUCLEAR PLANT

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